

THE PRINCIPAL
A C T S
OF THE
General Assembly
OF THE
CHURCH
OF
SCOTLAND;

Conveened at **EDINBURGH**, the 14th Day of *May* 1718.

Collected and Extracted from the Records, by the Clerk thereof.



EDINBURGH,

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THE PRINCIPAL
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Holden and begun at *EDINBURGH*, upon *Wednesday* the 14th Day of *May*, 1718, and ending the 27th Day of that same Month and Year.

I.

ACT Appointing the *KING's* Commission to *JOHN* Earl of *ROTHES*, to be recorded.

At *EDINBURGH* 14th *May* 1718, Sess. II



THE General Assembly of the Ministers and Ruling Elders of this National Church of *Scotland*, being convened and constituted, there was produced to them, by the Right Honourable, *John* Earl of *Rothes*, His Majesty's Commission, sealed with the Seal appointed by the *Treaty of Union* betwixt the two Kingdoms of *Scotland* and *England*, to be kept and used in *Scotland*, in Place of the Great Seal of *Scotland*, of the same Tenor with the Commission granted by His Majesty to the foresaid Earl, in the Year One thousand seven hundred and fifteen, and subsequent Assemblies, constituting him His Majesty's High Commissioner, and Representative in this Assembly; which Commission, being publicly read with all due Honour and Respect, is ordered by this Assembly to be recorded in their Books, to remain therein, *ad futuram Rei Memoriam*.

*The KING's most gracious LETTER
to the General Assembly, presented to
them by His Majesty's Commissioner,
14th May 1718.*

GEORGE R.

RIGHT Trusty and Well-beloved, We Greet you well: We have received so many Proofs of the Zeal and Affection of the Church of Scotland, to Our Person and Government, That it is with great Willingness, We countenance your General Assembly at this Time, being fully confident from your prudent Management in former Assemblies, That you will now meet with the same good Disposition, and conduct yourselves with the same Temper and Unanimity in this; and we doubt not, but that our constant Care and Endeavours to promote the Interest, and to maintain inviolably the Rights and Privileges of the Church of Scotland, will on your Parts have a suitable Return of Gratitude and Duty.

You may most firmly assure yourselves, That you shall always have our chearful Concurrence in promoting Religion and Piety, in discouraging Profaneness and Immorality, and in preventing the Growth of Popery, against which, true Protestants can never be too much upon their Guard.

We have again appointed our Right Trusty, and Well-beloved Cousin, John Earl of Rothes, to represent Our Person in this Assembly, whose Abilities to discharge that Trust, with his former Services therein, will, we doubt not, make him acceptable to you: And so we bid you heartily farewell.

Given at Our Court at St. James's the Ninth Day of April, One thousand seven hundred and eighteen Years, and in the fourth Year of Our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command,
ROXBURGH,

Directed thus,
To the Right Reverend and Well-beloved, the Moderator, Ministers and Elders of the General Assembly of the Church of SCOTLAND.

III. The

III.

*The General Assembly's ANSWER to
the KING's most Gracious LETTER.**Edinburgh, 16th May 1718, Scff. 3.**May it please Your Majesty,*

WITH the greatest Sense of Duty and Thankfulness, we most humbly acknowledge Your Majesty's Royal Favour, in countenancing our Assembly, and honouring us with Your most gracious Letter.

The Notice that Your Majesty in Your great Goodness, is pleased to take, of the Zeal and Affection of the Church of *Scotland*, to Your Royal Person and Government, to which we judge our selves bound by the strongest Obligations, excites us to use our best Endeavours, to make appear to the World Our inviolable Loyalty and Faithfulness to the best of Kings; and it shall be our earnest Care, to shew such a Disposition in this Assembly, and to manage our selves with that Temper and Unanimity, as we humbly hope, may be pleasing to Your Majesty.

We can never sufficiently express our Gratitude to Your Majesty, for the repeated Assurances of your constant Royal Care and Endeavours, to promote the Interest, and maintain inviolably the Rights and Privileges of the Church of *Scotland*, by which we are encouraged to persist in using the outmost Diligence to instil in the People, a just Sense of their Duty and Loyalty to Your Majesty.

That Your Majesty is pleased to assure us, That we shall always have your chearful Concurrance in promoting Religion and Piety, discouraging Profaneness and Immorality, and preventing the Growth of Popery, will render us inexcusable, if we shall be wanting in any Thing on our Part, whereby those great and good Ends may be attained; and if we should not imploy our greatest Care to prevent the Growth of Popery, against which, we are firmly perswaded, true Protestants can never be enough upon their Guard.

The Zeal the Earl of *Roths* has showed for the Protestant Succession, even when it seemed to be in the greatest Danger, his Abilities to discharge his present high Trust, and his former Services to this Church, render Your Majesty's Choice of him, to represent your Royal Person in this Assembly, most acceptable to us.

B

That

That Your Majesty may Reign long and prosperously over these Kingdoms; and enjoy the sweet Fruits of Your wife and happy Administration; That God may eminently bless their Royal Highnesses, the Prince and Princess of Wales, their Royal Issue, and all Your Royal Family; and that after a happy Life and glorious Reign here, You may enjoy eternal Blessedness in Heaven, are the earnest and constant Prayers of,

May it please Your Majesty,

Your Majesty's most Faithful, most Obedient, and most Loyal Subjects,

The Ministers and Elders, met in this General Assembly of the Church of SCOTLAND.

Signed in Our Presence, in Our Name, and at Our Appointment, by

WILL. WISHEART Moderator

I V.

ACT and Recommendation concerning a **FUND** for maintaining the Indigent Widows and Orphans of Ministers.

At Edinburgh, 19th May, 1718. Sess. 5.

THE General Assembly finding, that it often falls out, that many of the Widows and Orphans of the Ministers of this Church are brought into great Straits, do judge it necessary and laudable, that some Way be fallen upon for Relief of such: They in Order thereunto, did, and hereby do seriously recommend to every Minister in Scotland, to give and dedicate the tenth Part of his Stipend for one Year, for the End foresaid, and do appoint the same to be payed in, in Money, and no otherwise, to the Moderator of each Presbytery, betwixt and the fifteenth Day of May, One thousand seven hundred and nineteen Years, or betwixt and the fifteenth Day of May, One thousand seven hundred and twenty one Years, with the ordinary Annualrent thereof from the said fifteenth Day of May, One thousand seven hundred and nineteen, to the Time that the same shall be paid; And if Ministers do not pay in their tenth Part of their Stipends for one Year at the Times and in the Terms above-mentioned, they discharge the Presbyteries and Synods to receive the same, tho' afterwards offered; and appoints every

ry Synod to nominate a responſal Perſon within their Bounds, for receiving the ſame from the Moderators of the Presbyteries. 2^do, The General Aſſembly further recommends to every Miniſter hereafter to be ordained or admitted within the Bounds of any Synod, That he, within the Space of two Years after his Admiſſion, pay in in Manner foreſaid, the tenth Part of one Year's Stipend he is entitled to, by that Admiſſion, if he has not already payed in an other Synod: And the Aſſembly declares, That his Relict and Children ſhall be entitled to a Share of the Fund in that Synod where the ſaid Miniſter payed, and not in that where he laſt ſerved, except he have contributed in that Synod alſo, which it is hereby declared he is at Liberty to do or not as he pleaſes. 3rdo, The Aſſembly appoints, That the Money, collected in every Synod, be turned into a Stock, and that it be lent out upon good Security, and that only the yearly Intereſt thereof be diſtributed, and that the Stock be kept entire; and if the Annualrent ſhall at any Time happen to do more than ſerve the Exigences of the Widows and Children in the Synod, they appoint the ſaid ſuperplus Annualrent to be added to the Stock in Order to encrease the Fund. 4tho, The Aſſembly appoints, That the Contributors in every Synod ſhall have the Management of what Sums ſhall be collected and given for the Ends foreſaid, to the Widows and Children of Miniſters who have ſerved and contributed within their Bounds, and that none other ſhall have Right thereto. 5tho, That no Miniſters Widows and Children ſhall have any Benefit from this Fund, except their Husband or Father have actually paid in the tenth Part of their Stipend for one Year, and do inſtruct the ſame. 6tho, That no Miniſter's Widow ſhall have any Title to this Fund after they ſhall be married to another Husband, or Children after their Marriage, or being in Caſe to do for themſelves, or be known to have a Competency to ſubſiſt upon, or ſhall be found unworthy thereof, by any unſuitable Carriage: Of all which, the Contributors, within the Bounds of every Synod, are to be the Judges. 7tho, That no Widow or Child, entitled to a Share of this Fund, ſhall be allowed above ten Pounds *Sterl.* yearly thereof; and the Aſſembly hereby allows the Contributors to give leſs, and in ſuch Proportions as the Fund will bear, and the Circumſtances of the Perſons require. 8tho, If any other charitably diſpoſed Perſon, beſide Miniſters, ſhall think fit to contribute to this pious Deſign, the Aſſembly hereby reſolve and declare, That they ſhall have a Vote and Power in the Management and Diſtribution of the foreſaid Funds; provided always, That their ſaid Contribution be not under ten Pounds *Sterling* Money. 9tho, The Aſſembly hereby enacts and declares, That none ſhall have a Vote or Power in the Management and

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Distribution of this Fund, but such as have contributed thereto: And for that End they appoint, That there be a Meeting of those Persons every Synod, for ordering what concerns this Matter, and the Moderator of the Synod shall preside in that Meeting, and the Clerk of the Synod shall be Clerk thereto, if they have contributed; but if not, the General Assembly appoints others to be chosen Preses and Clerk to the said Meeting: And the Assembly hereby warrants and allows the said Contributors to appoint a Committee of their own Number to manage the Concerns of this Fund, in the Intervals of the Synod's Meetings: But it is hereby provided and declared, That the said Committee shall have no Power to dispose of any Part of the Money; and they are hereby ordained to report an Account of their Actings to the next Meeting at the Synod. *10mo*, The General Assembly hereby prohibit and discharge any Distribution to be made, but at the ordinary Diets of the Synod; and do appoint and declare, That the Plurality of the Meeting shall by their Vote determine any Difference that may arise about the Matter. *11mo*, The Assembly hereby declares, That such Presbyteries as have already settled a Fund for their Widows and Children, shall be at Liberty either to keep and manage the same by themselves, or to join with the Synod as they shall think best, provided, that the *Quota* of the Presbyteries said Fund, do extend to a tenth Part of the whole Stipends within the said Presbytery, and that they declare their Resolution at the Meeting of their Synod preceeding the Year One thousand seven hundred and nineteen. And, *Lastly*, It's hereby provided and declared, That if any Event unforeseen shall fall in, that may stop and hinder the Execution of the above Articles in the Manner that they are proposed, the Premises shall be ordered and managed, according to further Rules and Directions, to be given by the subsequent General Assemblies of this Church.

V:

Commission to some Ministers and Elders, for discussing divers Matters referred to them.

Edinburgh 23d May 1718, Post Meridiem, Sess. 12.

THE General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, taking to their Consideration, That there are divers weighty Affairs, which they cannot overtake, do nominate and appoint their Reverend Brethren, Masters, *William Wisbeart* Principal of the College of *Edinburgh*

burgh their Moderator, Patrick Warner at Irvine, William Vetch at Drumsfries, George Gordon at Cromerty, Alexander Reay at Avock, Daniel M'Gilligin at Alness, Thomas Chisholm at Kilmorack, Hector Fraser at Addertie, Hugh Monro at Tain, Robert Kirk at Dornock, Walter Ross at Kincardin, William Innes at Thurso, Hugh Corfs at Bowar, Thomas Baskie at Kirkwall, John Nisbet at Sandwick, Alexander Nisbet at Shappinsbay, James Buchan at Northmaving, Thomas Hay at Tell, John Flint at Edinburgh, Robert Sandilands there, William Mitchell there, James Nisbet there, Matthew Wood there, William Brown at Leith, William Hamilton Professor of Divinity in the College of Edinburgh, John Kennaird at East-caldar, John Brown at Abercorn, James Houston at Kirklistoun, John Wilkie at Strabrock, Robert Livingston at Biggar, Thomas Linnen at Walsfoun, James Robertson at Ecclestown, John Wallace at Drummelzier, John Hay at Peebles, Patrick Cuming at Ormiston, David Walker at Temple, David Lindsay at Cockpen, John Currie at Haddington, Robert Horsburgh at Salt-prestoun, James Alston at Dirlington, George Turnbull at Tynninghame, Andrew Brown at Spot, James Gilliland at Greenlaw, William Wilson at Hiltoun, John Pow at Lennell, Henry Vetch at Swintoun, Thomas Anderson at Aitoun, James Ramsay at Kelso, Walter Douglas at Lintoun, Robert Colvill at Terholm, John Gaudie at Ersletoun, James Ker at Nenhorn, William Gusthart at Crailling, John Cranston at Ancrum, John Gilchrist at Bedrule, George Byres at St. Boswells, Adam Miln at Melrose, James Black at Graitney, Alexander Meikle at Longholm, George Mulligen at Moffat, David Wigheman at Applegirth, John Whithead at Mouswall, Simon Riddel at Tintrom, Mungo Gibson at Sanguhar, Robert Paton at Dumfries, James Guthrie at Irongray, John M'Murdo at Torthorwald, Andrew Ewart at Kells, William Todd at Battle, George Garthshore at Anwist, Robert Seton at Glastertoun, Samuel Brown at Kirkmabreck, Walter Laurie at Stranraer, Archibald Marshall at Kirkcolm, Andrew Rogers at Galstoun, Mungo Lindsay at Sorne, John Hunter at Air, James Laurie at Dalrymple, Robert Cuming at Riccartoun, John Glasgow at Kilbirny, William Wright at Kilmarnock, Andrew Cuming at Largs, Neil Campbell at Renfrew, John Paisley at Lochinnioch, Robert Miller at Paisley, John Murehead at Camnethan, William Hamilton at Borthwel, John Scot at Stonhouse, John Orr at Lanerk, James Hepburn at Craufurdmure, Charles Hunter at Pittinien, James Clark at Glasgow, James Stirling at Baronykirk, John Gray at Glasgow, John Stirling Principal of the College of Glasgow, Robert Wallace at Badernoch, Archibald Wallace at Cardross, James Bain at Bonhill, Walter Campbell at Danoon, William Campbell at Kilmodan, Alexander Campbell at Inverary, James Gessie there, Daniel Morison at Kilbranden, Robert Stewart at Lochaber, James Bowis

Bowis at Campbeltoun, Dugald Campbell at Southend, Daniel M' Aulay at Braccadel, Archibald M' Queen at Snizort, Robert Bowis at Rattray, James Stewart at Mouling, Patrick Stewart at Auchtergaven, John Gardner at Moneadie, David Meldrum at Tippermuir, William Moncrief at Methven, James Mercer at Forteviot, Thomas Findlayson at Dumbarny, Archibald Napier at Kilmadock, Arthur Forbes at Port, James Brisbane at Stirling, William Campbell at Alva, Andrew Ure at Fossoway, Dougald Campbell at Comrie, Lauchlan M'Intosh at Dunning, Allan Logan at Culrofs, John Gib at Cleish, John Bryce at Saline, James Dickson at Markinch, John Auchinleck at Auchterdiren, John Drysdale at Kircaldy, Alexander Anderson at Faulkland, Thomas Thomson at Auchtermuchtie, Robert Laing at Newburgh, William Pitscairn at Collesie, James Hadow Principal of the New College of St. Andrews, William Montrieff at Largo, Robert Fairweather at Craill, Alexander Anderson at Kilrinie, Joseph Drew Principal of the Leonardine College of St. Andrews, George Ogilvy in Kirriemuir, Thomas Mitchel at Aberlemno, James Mar at Murrofs, Robert Kinloch at Dundee, George Fleeming at Lundie, John Thomson at Marykirk, James Muirson at Garvock, David Ramsay at Fettercairn, Andrew Bruce at Innerkeilor, Charles Irving at Lunan, Adam Davidson at Eassie, David Thomson at Meigle, George Wemyss at Ferne, Robert Gray at Brechin, Robert Ker at Leshnot, George Chalmers Principal of the King's College at Aberdeen, Alexander Mitchel at Oldmachir, John Osburn at Aberdeen, David Anderson Professor of Divinity in the King's College there, Thomas Blackwell Principal of the New town College there, James Robertson at Glenmuick, John Shepherd at Logiecolstoun, George Moir at Towie, James Gordon at Alfoord, William Leslie at Chappel of Garriosh, Alexander Shand at Inch, John Turrine at Drumblair, Alexander Forbes at Forgue, Alexander Irving at Fordice, Alexander Auchinleck at Frazerburgh, James Leslie at Crimond, James Burnet at Ellon, James Wardlaw at Cruden, John Gilchrist at Keith, Hugh Innes at Mortlish, Daniel Mackenzie at Aberlour, Thomas Fairbairn at Rothes, Alexander Fraser at Alvie, Lauchlan Shaw at Kingussie, James Thomson at Elgine, Charles Primrose there, James Gordon at Kinloss, David Henderson at Oldearn, Robert Baillie at Inverness, and Robert Thomson at Kirkhill, Ministers: John Duke of Athol, John Earl of Rothes, David Earl of Buchan, Thomas Earl of Haddington, Patrick Earl of Marchmont, James Earl of Hyndford, David Earl of Glasgow, Archibald Earl of Ilay, William Lord Strathnaver, Alexander Lord Polmarth, Lord Charles Ker, Director of His Majesty's Chancery, William Lord Ross, James Lord Torphichen, George Lord Reay, Sir Hugh Dalrymple of Northberwick, Lord President of the Session, Adam Cockburn of Ormiston, Lord Justice Clerk, Sir John Maxwell

Maxwell of Nether-Pollock Baronet, Sir Alexander Ogilvie of Forglen Baronet, Mr. James Eskine of Grange, Mr. James Hamilton of Pancaitland, Sir Andrew Hume of Kimmerrghame, Seven of the Senators of the College of Justice, Mr. John Clark one of the Barons of His Majesty's Exchequer, Sir David Dalrymple of Hailes Baronet, His Majesty's Advocate, Mr. John Campbell of Mamore, Uncle to his Grace the Duke of Argyll, Mr. Francis Montgomery of Giffan, Brother to the late Earl of Eglington, Colonel William Dalrymple, Brother to the Earl of Stair, Mr. Arthur Forbes of Breda, Uncle to the Lord Forbes, Colonel John Erskine of Carnock, Brother to the late Lord Cardross, Mr. Charles Erskine Advocate, Son to the said Lord Cardross, Sir Walter Pringle Advocate, Colonel Robert Monro of Foullis, Mr. Alexander Gordon of Ardoch, William Ross of Aldie, Mr. Robert Dundas of Arnistoun Advocate, His Majesty's Solicitor, Doctor Alexander Dundas Physician, Mr. Gilbert Burnet Advocate, one of the Commissioners of His Majesty's Excise, William Neilson, Lord Provost of Edinburgh, John Duncan Baillie there, George Dundas of that Ilk, Doctor David Mitchel of Herdmanston Physician, William Baillie of Lamington, Sir James Stewart of Goodtrees Baronet Advocate, Sir John Clark of Penryncook Baronet, Sir Robert Dalrymple of Castletoun Advocate, Sir William Baird of Newbyth Baronet, Mr. John Dickson of Antonhill, Commissar of Lauder, Sir John Pringle of Stichell Baronet, George Baillie of Jerviswood, George Pringle of Greenknows, Archibald Douglas of Cavers, Robert Rutherford of Fairnieles, Major James Aikman, Mr. James Baillie Writer to the Signet, Sir Thomas Kirkpatrick of Closeburn Baronet, John Paterson Baillie in Drumfries, Samuel McClellan of Barclay, John Martin of Airez, Mr. Andrew Ross of Balsarroch, John Cunninghame of Enterkine, Sir Robert Pollock of that Ilk Baronet, Hugh Montgomery of Hartfield, Sir David Stewart of Culneths Baronet, Sir James Smollet of Bonhill, Master Robert Stewart Professor of Philosophy in the College of Edinburgh, Sir James Campbell of Ardkinglass Baronet, Doctor William Stewart of Ambrismore, Physician, George Drummond Merchant in Edinburgh, John Campbell late Provost of Edinburgh, James Nimmo Merchant there, Mr. Alexander Campbell Advocate, Sir James Campbell of Auchinbreck Baronet, William Augustine Provost of Perth, Patrick Teaman of Eastmiln, Sir James Holburn of Menstrie Baronet, Sir James Campbell of Abernethill Baronet, Mr. Alexander Abercrombie of Tullibody Advocate, Dewar of Lassodie, Brigadier James Bruce of Kennet, Mr. Robert Hay of Naughton, Mr. Patrick Halden Advocate Provost of St. Andrews, John Cunninghame of Pittarchie, Mr. Alexander Duncan of Lundie Provost of Dundee, Mr. Arthur Shepherd Sheriff-depute of Kincardine, John Doig Provost of Brechin, John Scrimzeor of Tealing, John Gordon

Provost of Aberdeen, Robert Stewart late Provost there, Arthur Forbes of Eight, Captain John Forbes of Boyndlie, William Duff of Dipple, Mr. Patrick Grant of Easter Elchis Advocate, Sir Henry Innes of that Ilk Baronet, Hugh Rose of Kilravock, Mr. Duncan Forbes Advocate, Sir George Warrender of Lochend Baronet, John Hay one of the Baillies of Edinburgh, Robert Craig late Dean of Guild there, Archibald McAlay and John Osburn late Baillies there, Doctor John Riddel, Doctor Francis Pringle and Doctor James Forrest Physicians, William Livingston late Deacon-Conveener, Alexander Nisbet Chirurgion, Mr. John Henderson and Hugh Hathorn Merchants in Edinburgh, Robert Tod Senior Merchant there, John Fergusson Merchant there, John Russell of Braidshaw, Mr. George Livingston one of the Under-Clerks of Session, Mr. Joseph Cave His Majesty's Ingraver in the Mint, Mr. Colin Drummond Professor of Philosophy in the College of Edinburgh, Mr. Robert Hepburn of Stonyfat Writer to the Signet, Mr. Walter Stewart Advocate, Mr. Archibald Stewart Advocate, John Knox Chirurgion in Edinburgh, James Young of Killcattie, Mr. John Goodall Professor of Hebrew in the College of Edinburgh, Sir William Menzies of Gladstones, Mr. James Leblanc Merchant in Edinburgh, and James Balfour of Pitrig, Ruling Elders, to be Commissioners of the General Assembly, to the Effect after-mentioned, with Power to the said Persons or their Quorum, which is hereby declared to be any Thirty one of the said Commissioners, whereof Twenty one are always to be Ministers, to meet and convene within the Assembly House at Edinburgh, the first Day after the Dissolution of this Assembly, at Ten of the Clock in the Forenoon, and afterward the second Wednesdays of August and November, One thousand seven hundred and eighteen, and of March One thousand seven hundred and nineteen Years, and oftner when or where they shall think needful and convenient, with Power to the said Commissioners to chuse their own Moderator: And likewise, the General Assembly fully impowers and authorizes their said Commissioners or their Quorum above-mentioned, to cognosce and finally to determine as they shall see Cause, in every Matter referred, or that shall be referred to them, by any Act or Order of this General Assembly, and to do every Thing contained in, and conform to the Instructions given or to be given by this Assembly, and to advert unto the Interests of the Church on every Occasion, that the Church and present Establishment thereof, do not suffer or sustain any Prejudice, which they can prevent, as they will be answerable; providing this general Clause be not extended to particular Affairs or Processes, before Synods or Presbyteries, that are not of universal Concern to, or Influence upon the whole Church. And it is declared and appointed, That what

what shall be determined at one Diet of the said Commission, with Relation to private Causes, shall be unalterable by any other Diet thereof, and shall stand and continue in Force till disapproved by the General Assembly: And the General Assembly hereby renews the Instructions given by the Assembly, *Anno* One thousand seven hundred and seventeen, to their Commission, and appoints the same to stand in full Force, as Instructions to the Commissioners above-named, and to be observed by them in all Points, as if the same were specially therein insert: And the said Commissioners are hereby strictly prohibited and discharged to meddle in any other Matters than what are committed or referred to them, as above-mentioned; and in all their Actings, they are to proceed according to the Acts and Constitutions of this National Church, and to do nothing contrair thereto, or to the Prejudice of the same; Declaring, That in and for all their Actings, they shall be accountable to and censurable by the next General Assembly, as they shall see Cause; and this Commission is to continue and endure until another Commission be appointed; and Members are required to attend the Diets of the said Commission, and Absents therefrom ordered to be noticed, according to the seventeenth Act of the General Assembly One thousand seven hundred and six. And for the better securing of a *Quorum*, and Attendance of Members on the Commission, the General Assembly prohibits the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, and other Presbyteries within twelve Miles thereof, to meet any of the Days or Weeks appointed for the Meeting of this Commission; and such of the Members of these Presbyteries, as are on the Commission, are required all of them to give punctual Attendance on the Diets thereof; and Presbyteries at a greater Distance, who have four or more Members on the Commission, are to take Care, that at least two of them attend each Diet of the same.

VI.

ACT *Discontinuing the extraordinary Correspondence with the Synod of Angus and Merns.*

At Edinburgh, 26 May, 1718. Sess. 15.

THE General Assembly finding, That the Assembly held *Anno* 1701, by their seventh Act did appoint the Synods of *Lothian* and *Tweeddale*, *Perth* and *Stirling*, *Fife*, and *Aberdeen*, to send Correspondents to the Synod of *Angus* and *Merns*; and that the said Correspondence is by the said Act appointed to continue,

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tinue, until the Assembly shall see Cause to alter it: And the Assembly considering, That now in the good Providence of GOD, the Churches within the said Synod are generally planted; so that the Reasons which moved the Assembly to enjoin the said extraordinary Correspondence, have thereby ceased: Therefore the General Assembly did, and hereby do continue the extraordinary Correspondence appointed by the said Act, only for one Year next ensuing, declaring, That thenceforth the said extraordinary Correspondence shall cease, and the foresaid four Synods shall be freed of the Burden thereof, unless upon Application from the Synod of *Angus* and *Merns* to subsequent Assemblies they shall see Cause to continue or renew the same.

VII.

ACT *For the better dispatching the Business of Assemblies.*

At Edinburgh, 26 May, 1718. Sess. 15.

THe General Assembly finding, That their Business is much retarded by Parties having References, Appeals and Complaints, to lay before the Assembly, their not giving them timeously in to the Committee for Bills; and that by such Delays, the Assembly is often necessarily obliged to commit several of their weighty Affairs to their Commission, which were more proper to be judged by themselves: Therefore, they do hereby appoint, and ordain all References, Appeals and Complaints, that shall be made in Time coming to the General Assemblies of this Church, to be lodged in the Clerks Hands, on or before the second or third Days of the Assembly's Meetings, that thereby they may timeously have a full View of all their Work, and may be able to judge what Things are of the greatest Weight, and are necessary to be dispatched by themselves, if they cannot overtake the whole: With Certification, that all Appeals or Complaints not lodged in the Clerks Hands within the Time foresaid, shall be held as deserted and fallen from, and shall not thereafter be received; unless upon the first Opportunity, the Parties concerned make it appear to the Assembly, that insuperable Difficulties did with hold them from lodging the same in Manner above set down. And the General Assembly enjoins the Clerks of the several Judicatures, to transmit to the Clerk of Assembly within the Time foresaid, all References made by the respective Judicatures to the General Assembly.

VIII.

VIII.

ACT Concerning the Presbytery of Auchterarder.

At Edinburgh, 27 May, 1718. Sess. ult.

THe General Assembly finding, That the Assembly held Anno 1717, did condemn a Proposition emitted by the Presbytery of *Auchterarder*, and referred to their Commission, to call the Brethren of that Presbytery before them, to give an Account what they mean'd by the said Proposition; and that they having compeared before the Commission, and represented what they intended by it, the Commission agreed to accept of the Sense they offered, declaring always, That however sound and orthodox they were in their Meaning, and what they intended by that Proposition, yet they had express'd it in Words very unwarrantable and exceptionable; and the Commission did admonish them, and discharge them, to use that Expression in Time coming; and the Brethren of *Auchterarder* did engage to observe this their Prohibition. The General Assembly approves of the Actings of the said Commission in this Matter: And for the Vindication of the Brethren of the Presbytery of *Auchterarder*, they appointed these Presents to be printed among their publick Acts.

IX.

ACT Regulating Elections of Members of the General Assembly.

At Edinburgh, 27th May, 1718. Sess. ult.

THe General Assembly finding it necessary for the Good & Safety of the Church, that the General Assemblies be rightlie constituted, do therefore resolve and appoint, That in all Time coming, no Commission from any Presbytery, Burgh or University, to their Representatives in the General Assemblies of this Church, shall be sustained, but such as are in the Terms of the Acts of the General Assembly made for regulating Elections of Members of Assemblies, particularly the Act 5th of the General Assembly 1694, Intituled, *Act anent the Representation of Presbyteries in the General Assemblies*: Act 6th of the General Assembly 1698, Intituled, *Act for punctual sending of Commissioners to the General Assemblies and their Attendance during the Sitting thereof*: And the 6th Act of

the General Assembly 1704, Intituled, *Act anent Commissions to the General Assembly, and their subscribing the Confession of Faith, which are hereby renewed.* And the General Assembly appoints Presbyteries, not only to elect their full Number of Commissioners, but also to be careful to chuse such Persons as probably can attend. And the Assembly appoints, That Presbyteries who send not up their full Number of Commissioners, and Persons commissioned, who either come not up, or are absent from any of the Diets of Assembly, be censured, unless relevant Excuses for them be laid before, and be admitted by the General Assembly. And further, The General Assembly does resolve, and peremptorly enact and appoint, That in all Time coming, no Commission whatsoever for any Ruling Elder, or Ruling Elders, to sit as Members of the General Assemblies of this Church, be sustained, but such as shall bear particularly that they have signed the *Formula* prescribed by the 11th Act of the General Assembly 1694, unless the said Elders do either instantly subscribe it in Presence of the Assembly, or a Committee appointed by them, or do instruct, that they have already subscribed the same: And to prevent all Inconveniencies of this Sort in Time coming, the General Assembly appoints, That all Commissions after they are written out and extracted, and before they be put in the Hands of the Commissioners, be first read in the Presence of the Presbytery, and be revised by them, and that it be attested by the Moderator or Clerk of the Presbytery upon the said Commissions, that this was so done. And likewise, the General Assembly has resolved, until the Matter concerning Commissions from Burghs, be further thought upon; And hereby do resolve, appoint and ordain, That in the mean Time, no Commissions from Royal Burghs to their Representatives in Assembly, shall be sustained, but such as shall be consented to and approven, not only by the Ministry and Kirk-Sessions of the Burgh, as is resolved by the Act of Assembly, July 15th, 1647; but also by the Presbytery of the Bounds within which the Burgh lyes; and upon which it shall be attested, both by the Kirk-Session and Presbytery foresaid, That the Person or Persons therein-named, are Elders lawfully ordained, and have signed the *Formula* above-mentioned; and likewise, that they are either Residenters in the Burgh, or Heretors in the Burgh, or in the Bounds of the Presbytery where the Burgh lyes, or that they have formerly resided and officiated as Elders in the said Burgh or Presbytery. And, *Lastly*, The General Assembly extends the Time limited by the foresaid 6th Act of the General Assembly 1698, for chusing Commissioners from Presbyteries, to those that shall hereafter be sent from Royal Burghs.

X.

ACT Concerning the larger Overtures for Discipline.

At Edinburgh, 27th May 1718. Sess. ult.

THE General Assembly considering the Necessity of having a compleat System of Rules for the Procedure of the Judicatures of this Church in Matters of Discipline, and that the framing of this is one of the most proper Works of the General Assemblies of this Church, from which they have been long diverted by other incidental Things, and not having Time now to overtake this necessary Work, The General Assembly do revive the 17th Act of Assembly 1707, and the 16th Act of Assembly 1710, and again appoints the several Presbyteries who have not sent up their Remarks upon the larger Overtures, to transmit them to the Clerk of the Commission, betwixt and their Meeting in *August* next, or *November* at farthest; and they appoint Letters to be written by their Commission at their first Meeting to each Presbytery, for this Effect; and ordains their Commission at their said first Meeting to appoint a Committee to class and put in Order the Remarks upon these Overtures, which are already come up, and these which shall be sent up, that upon the Report of this Commission, the next General Assembly may be ready to enter upon this necessary Work. And the General Assembly recommends it to the several Presbyteries, to send up such Members to the next General Assembly, as may be most in Case to help forward this important Work.

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XL

XI.

ACT Appointing the Diet of the next General Assembly.

Edinburgh, 27th May, 1718. Sess. ult.

THE next General Assembly of this National Church of Scotland is appointed to be held at *Edinburgh*, the second *Thursday* of *May* next to come, in the Year of our *L O R D*, One thousand seven hundred and nineteen, being the Fourteenth Day of that Month.

This General Assembly was concluded with Prayer, and singing of the 122 Psalm, from Verse 6th to the Close, and pronouncing of the Blessing.

Collected and Extracted from the Records of the General Assembly, by

JO. DUNDAS, Cls. Eccl. Scot.



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Of the ACTS of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, held in the Year 1718, which are not here printed.

AFTER Sermon by Mr. William Mitchell Moderator of the preceeding Assembly, the Ministers and Ruling Elders, Members of this Assembly, did convene, and Mr. William Wisbeart, Principal of the College of Edinburgh, was chosen Moderator, May 14th, 1718. Session 1.

The King's Commission to John Earl of Rothes recorded. *Ibidem.*

His Grace His Majesty's Commissioner's Speech to the General Assembly at opening thereof. *Ibid.*

The Moderator's Speech to His Majesty's Commissioner. *Ibid.*

Committee for drawing an Answer to His Majesty's most gracious Letter. *Ibid.*

Committee appointed for Overtures. *Ibid.*

Committee for Bills, References, and Appeals. *Ibid.*

Committee appointed to revise the Register of the Commission of the late General Assembly, and to audite the Procurator and Agents for the Church their Accompts, to consider the State of the Church's publick Money, and prepare Overtures thereanent; as also any Overtures and References made by the late Commission, to this Assembly. *Ibid.*

Committee for revising the Commissions given to the Members of this Assembly, censuring Absents, naming Ministers to preach before his Grace His Majesty's Commissioner, and to supply the Moderator's Diet of Preaching, and taking up Lists of Probationers and Students in Divinity, in Order to be recorded. *Ibid.*

The Commission Book and Synod Books, ordered to be produced next Diet, to be revised. *Ibid.*

A Diet appointed for solemn Prayer. *Ibid.*

A Diet spent in Prayer, May 15th, 1718. Sess. 2.

Ministers named to preach before His Majesty's Commissioner, and for the Moderator. *Ibid.*

Some more Commissions produced, May 16th. Sess. 3.

An Answer to His Majesty's most Gracious Letter, unanimously approven. *Ibid.*

Committees appointed for revising, and examining the Actings of the Synods of Ross and Sutherland, Caithness and Orkney, Lothian and Tweeddale, Merse and Tiviotdale, Drumfries, Galloway, Glasgow and Air, Argyll, Perth and Stirling,

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Stirling, Fife, and Angus and Merns, and Presbytery Book of Zetland. But the Synod Books of *Aberdeen and Murray*, not being produced, these Synods were ordered to send their Books to the next Assembly. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to receive from the Commissioners of the several Presbyteries, their Synods and Presbyteries Instructions to them, and any new Overtures they have to offer, and to class the Matters therein contained, and to prepare Overtures therefrom, and also to receive from them Accounts of the State of the Church in the North, the *Highlands* and Islands, particularly concerning Popery and Superstition, and to prepare Overtures for suppressing and preventing the same, and to bring these Overtures to the Committee for Overtures, to be ripened for the Assembly. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to consider a Process concerning the planting of *Forgan* in *Fife*, and the Two competing Calls thereanent, the one to Mr. *James Russel*, and the other to Mr. *John Duncan* both Probationers, and to bring in a short State of that Affair. *Ibid.*

Intimation made to Members, to give in the Names of Probationers and Students in Divinity, to a particular Member of the Committee for Commissions. *Ibid.*

The Act of the General Assembly, for keeping Order in the Assembly-house, and hindering Persons coming in to it, who are not concerned to be there, read, and ordered to be punctually observed. *Ibid.*

Intimation made, That such as have Business with the Assembly, do timously lay the same before the proper Committees, and the Committee for Overtures, appointed to consider what is to be done, to hasten the bringing in of Business for the Future. *Ibid.*

The Commissioners to this Assembly, from the Universities and Colleges, were desired to meet among themselves, and prepare Overtures to the Assembly, for the Establishment and Advancement of Piety, Learning, and good Order, in Universities and Schools, as is appointed by the 6th Act of the General Assembly, *Anno 1707.* *Ibid.*

Intimation was made in Assembly, That the Committee for Overtures have under Consideration a Motion concerning the maintaining the Widows and Orphans of Ministers; and such as had any Thing to propose upon that Subject, were desired to attend that Committee at their next Diet, and give in the same. *Ibid.*

The Assembly's Answer to the King's Letter, being signed by the Moderator, His Majesty's Commissioner, undertook to transmit the same to His Majesty; and a Copy thereof was ordered to be sent to his Grace the Duke of *Roxburgh*, Secretary of State. *Ibid.*

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Appointment of the next Diet of the Assembly, and its Committees. *Ibid.*

Some more Commissions produced, and remitted to a Committee, May 17th, Sess. 4th.

Upon Report of a Committee, the Process concerning the planting of *Forgan* was referred, with Consent of Parties, to the Commission, with this Declaration, That if the Pursuers insist not at the first Diet thereof, the Appeal from the Synod is to be held as fallen from, and deserted, and the Synod's Sentence to take Effect. *Ibid.*

A Petition for the Parish of *Stromness* in *Orkney*, craving the Assembly's Assistance in building a new Church, and obtaining a new Erection, referred to a Committee. *Ibid.*

A Petition for *George Lockhart* of *Carmath*, complaining of the Presbytery of *Lanark*'s delaying the Settlement of *Mr. Patrick Scott* at *Carmath*, referred to a Committee, who were to hear Parties, and report to the Assembly. *Ibid.*

A Petition concerning the planting of *Telen* read, and his Grace the Duke of *Douglas* allowed to see and answer the same, and a Diet assigned for hearing Parties. *Ibid.*

An Appeal from the Synod of *Perth*, by *Mr. William Inglis* at *Kilspindy*, deposed by them upon Account of Scandal, being tabled, a Committee was appointed to bring in a short State of the Case. *Ibid.*

A Petition for the Earl of *Kinow*, and another from the Parish of *Aberdalgy*, with an Appeal from the Presbytery of *Perth*, in the Transportation of *Mr. James Mercer* to that Parish, read, and delayed, till the Case of *Mr. William Inglis* be first brought in. *Ibid.*

Appointment of the next Diet of this Assembly and its Committees. *Ibid.*

Some more new Commissions produced, May 19th, Sess. 5. Overtures for maintaining the Widows and Orphans of Ministers, unanimously approved, and turned into an Act. *Ibid.*

An Overture for the more quick Dispatch of the Affairs of the Assembly, being brought in and read, was ordered to ly on the Table, to be further considered by Members. *Ibid.*

A Petition by the Presbytery of *Erstoun* for Advice, concerning the planting of *Mr. Robert Rickleton* at *Merroun*, referred to a Committee. *Ibid.*

Mr. Hugh Monro at *Tain*, allowed 536 *Lib. Scots* out of the Church's publick Money, for helping to reimburse him of the Expences of his Process for Settlement of his Stipend, upon the Considerations mentioned in his Peti-

tion,

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tion, with a further Remit in his Favours to a Committee. *Ibid.*

Remit to the Committee for Overtures, concerning the Places of the Meeting of the Synod of *Angus* and *Merns*. *Ibid.*

A Petition for the Presbytery of *Zytland*, giving an Account of the State of their Bounds, and shewing the Need of new Erections, and Settlement of Schools there, referred to a Committee. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission, finally to determine in any Cause that shall be orderly brought before them, for planting the Parish of *Kendmore*. *Ibid.*

A Petition for the Synod of *Ross* and *Sutherland*, concerning a new Erection, out of the Parishes of *Creith* and *Kincardine*, and a Stipend thereto out of the Bishops Rents, referred to the Committee for Overtures. *Ibid.*

James Taylor Student, his Petition for a Burs, referred to the Commission. *Ibid.*

A Petition for the Presbytery of *Perth*, concerning the Circumstances of Mr. *David Shaw*, and Parish of *Aberdalgie*, referred to a Committee. *Ibid.*

A Process concerning the Transportation of Mr. *John Anderson* from *Dumbarroun* to *Glasgow* tabled, and after reading divers Papers, the further Consideration of the Affair delayed till another Diet. *Ibid.*

Appointment of the next Diet of the Assembly and its Committees. *Ibid.*

Some named to preach before the King's Commissioner, and for the Moderator, 20th May, Sess. 6th.

A Committee appointed for inspecting the Records of the General Session of *Glasgow*. *Ibid.*

Appointment of the next Diet of the Assembly, and its Committees: *Ibid.*

Brethren from these Places where Popery does most abound, and some other Members appointed to meet, and prepare some Overtures for suppressing, and preventing the Growth of Popery, and bring in the same to the General Assembly, May 21st, Sess. 7.

A Committee appointed to consider of, and prepare an Overture concerning the Payment of the Church's Debts, and laying down a Fund for maintaining Catechists in Parishes where Popery abounds. *Ibid.*

The Commission Book examined and attested according to the 8th Act of the General Assembly 1706, and the Members of the Commission commended for their Faithfulness and Diligence. *Ibid.*

A Declaration, That the attesting of the Commission Book, is to be without Prejudice to the Assembly, to take in, and determine as they find just, any particular Com-

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plaints against the Sentences of the Commission; presently depending before this Assembly, or Committees thereof.

Ibid.

The Procurator and Agent for the Church their Accompts, with the Vouchers thereof, and Opinion of the Committee thereon brought in; and the Report being read, the whole ordered to ly upon the Table till another Diet, that any Members who pleased, might peruse the same.

Ibid.

Reference to the Committee for Overtures, to inquire whether Mr. *David Musket* Probationer obeyed the Appointment on him to go North, and report. *Ibid.*

Mr. *John Cob* allowed 200 Merks yearly, for two Years, to be given to a Probationer to assist him, and the Commission allowed to take in his Accompts of Debursements in a former Process anent his Stipend, with a Reference anent an Augmentation. *Ibid.*

Act concerning the Presbytery of *Skye* their sending one or two of their Number, to visit the Island of *Hirta*, alias *St. Kilda*, and inquire into the Carriage of Mr. *Alexander Buchan* Minister there, and his Success in his Labours in that Place, and to assist and join with him in the Administration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, and empowering the Commission to receive in the Accompts of the Expences of that Voyage. *Ibid.*

Report, That the Commission's Sentence of Deposition against Mr. *Ninian Hume* was intimated, and the Church of *Sproutown* declared vacant. *Ibid.*

The Synod of *Aberdeen* allowed 70 *Lib. sterl.* and the Synod of *Angus* and *Merns* 40 *Lib. sterl.* out of the publick Money, for helping to defray the Charges of the Process against the Episcopal Ministers, who had intruded on Churches and Parishes of late. *Ibid.*

The Members of this Assembly ordered to meet by their Synods severally, to name Persons to be on a Committee, for nominating the Members of a Commission to be appointed by this Assembly, and to prepare Draughts of their Commission and Instructions. *Ibid.*

Act appointing the Presbytery of *Lanerk*, to proceed to settle Mr. *Patrick Scot* as Minister of *Carnwath*, and finish the same betwixt and the first of *August* next, and empowering the Commission to see this Sentence put to due Execution. *Ibid.*

Appointment of the next Diet of this Assembly, and Committees thereof. *Ibid.*

List of Persons in the several Synods brought in, and appointed as a Committee for drawing the Commission to be given by this Assembly, and naming the Persons to be

thereon,

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thereon, and preparing their Instructions. *May 21st, post Merid. Sessio 8th.*

Report of the Committee, for searching the Registers of the General Session of *Glasgow*, with an Act approving of the Sentence of the Synod of *Glasgow*, concurring with the Call to Mr. *John Anderson*, to be one of the Ministers of *Glasgow*. *Ibid.*

Appointment of the next Diet of this General Assembly and its Committees. *Ibid.*

Divers Papers in the Process, for transporting Mr. *John Anderson* from *Dumbarton* to *Glasgow* read, and the Affair delayed till another Diet, *May 22d, Ante Merid. Sess. 9.*

The mutual Complaints of the Ministers of *Glasgow*, and Mr. *John Anderson*, against each other, read, and that Affair delayed till another Diet, *22d May Post Merid. Sess. 10th.*

Appointment of the next Diet of this Assembly and its Committees.

Act suspending the proceeding in the Moderation of a Call to *Balingrie*, until the Appeal to this Assembly be discussed, *May 23d, Sess. 11th.*

Divers Papers concerning the Transportation of Mr. *John Anderson* from *Dumbarton* to *Glasgow*, being read, a Committee was appointed to confer with the Ministers of *Glasgow*, and Mr. *John Anderson*, and report. *Ibid.*

Appointment of the next Diet of this Assembly. *Ibid.*

A Commission by this Assembly, to some Ministers and Elders, and their Instructions approved, *23d May post Merid. Sess. 12th.*

Act transporting Mr. *John Anderson* from *Dumbarton* to *Glasgow*, to be Minister of the North-west Quarter there. *Ibid.*

Appointment of the next Diet of this Assembly and its Committees. *Ibid.*

Mr. *John Anderson's* Admission to *Glasgow*, protracted till the last *Thursday* of *August* next; and the Declaration of the Vacancy of *Dumbarton*, delayed till the first Lord's Day thereafter, of Consent of Parties, *24th May, Sess. 13th.*

A Committee appointed to take under Consideration, a Proposal concerning some Expressions in the Papers given in by Mr. *John Anderson*, and the Ministers of *Glasgow*, and to bring in some Overtures thereupon. *Ibid.*

The Assembly's Procedure upon the Complaint of Mr. *Ninian Hume*, against the late Commission's Sentence, and the Assembly's Act, approving of the said Commission's Sentence against him, deposing him from the Office and Exercise of the Ministry, with all that had followed thereupon. *Ibid.*

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Appointment of the next Diet of this Assembly, and its Committees. *Ibid.*

The King's Commissioner acquaints the Assembly, with His Majesty's Receipt, and gracious Acceptance of their Return to His Letter, &c. *May 26th, Sess. 14th.*

Act appointing the Presbytery of *Dundee*, to proceed to the Settlement of *Telen* in an orderly Way, and to endeavour to have the Duke of *Douglas's* Concurrence therein, with a Reference to the Commission in Case of Controversy, finally to determine in the said Settlement, as they shall see Cause. *Ibid.*

The Process and Appeal of Mr. *William Inglis* at *Kilspindie*, referred to the Commission, and the Presbytery of *Perth* ordered to exhibit the principal Depositions at their Meeting in *August* next, and the Commission empowered to consider a Complaint against the Clerk of the Synod of *Perth*. *Ibid.*

Act approving the Sentence of the late Commission, finding Mr. *David Schaw's* Relation to *Aberdalgie* not dissolved; and that the Process for Transportation of Mr. *James Mercer* thereto, ought to proceed no further; and a Letter ordered to be written to the Earl of *Kinoul*, intimating this to him. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission, of the Petition of the Presbytery of *Perth*, anent Mr. *David Schaw's* Circumstances *Aberdalgie*. *Ibid.*

A Report anent Mr. *John Anderson*, and the Ministers of *Glasgow's* Complaints recommitted. *Ibid.*

Appointment of the next Diet of this Assembly and its Committees. *Ibid.*

Act approving of the Accompts of Mr. *John Dundas* Advocate, Procurator for the Church, for a whole Year of His Majesty's Allowance, at the Disposal of the last General Assembly, for defraying the Charges of the Year 1717, and discharging him and his Cautioner of his Intromissions, and appointing the Ballance of 29 *Lib.* 19 *sh.* 5 *d.* and 1 Part *d. sterl.* to be stated, as an Article of Discharge in his next Accompt, *May 26th, Sess. 15th.*

Act approving of the Accompts of Mr. *John Dundas* Procurator for the Church, his Intromissions with the Church's Money, due on the Fund of the Equivalent, and discharging him and his Cautioner of the Sum of 134 *Lib.* 4 *sh.* 5 *d.* $\frac{2}{3}$ Parts *d. sterl.* thereof. *Ibid.*

Act approving of the Accompts of *Nicol Spence*, one of the Agents for the Church, his Intromissions with the Church's Money, and sustaining his Debursements on the Church's Affairs, from the 1st *May* 1717, to the 1st of *May* 1718, and appointing the Ballance of 42 *Lib.*

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14 *lb. i d.* Part *sterl.* due to him, besides his Ballance at his former compting, to be paid to him. *Ibid.*

The Books of the Synods of *Ross* and *Sutherland*, *Caithness* and *Orkney*, *Lothian* and *Tweeddale*, *Merse* and *Tiviotdale*, *Drumfries*, *Galloway*, *Glasgow* and *Air*, *Argyll*, *Perth* and *Stirling*, *Fyfe*, and *Angus* and *Merns*, all examined and attested; But an Act of the Synod of *Orkney*, appointing their Elderships to be changed, and condemning the continuing ruling Elders *ad Vitam*, disapproved. *Item*, The Assembly's Disapprobation and Condemnation of the Synod of *Merse* and *Tiviotdale*, their not censuring Mr. *Ninian Hume* and others, for neglecting to read the Commission's *Seasonable Warning*. *Ibid.* *Item*, An Exhortation to the Synods of *Argyll* and *Perth*, to be more careful to forward the Collection, for promoting Christian Knowledge. *Ibid.*

One Copy of the Presbytery Book of *Zetland* attested, and another Copy thereof put in the Hands of a Committee to be revised, and the Remarks to be reported to the next General Assembly. *Ibid.*

Act and Recommendation, with Relation to the mutual Complaints of Mr. *John Anderson* and Ministers of *Glasgow*. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission, to determine in the Competition betwixt the contending Parties in the Parish of *Balingerie*, anent planting their vacant Church. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission, concerning the Places of meeting of the Synod of *Angus* and *Merns*. *Ibid.*

Remit to the Commission, to give Advice and Assistance to the Synod of *Angus* and *Merns*, concerning Schools and School masters. *Ibid.*

Act allowing Mr. *James Buchan* and Mr. *Thomas Hay* from *Zetland*, each of them 100 *Lib. Scots* for this Year, with a Reference to the Commission, as to other Parts of the Petition of the Presbytery there. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission, to assist the Synod of *Ross* and *Sutherland*, in procuring a Stipend out of the Bishops Rents, for a 3d Parish to be erected out of the *Highland* ends, of the Parishes of *Kincardine* and *Creich*. *Ibid.*

Appointment concerning Mr. *Francis Robertson*, and Mr. *John McArthur* Students, having *Irish*, their passing Trials, in Order to their supplying Vacancies in *Ross* and *Sutherland*. *Ibid.*

Appointment concerning Mr. *McSwine* and Mr. *Farquar Bethune* Students, having *Irish*, their passing Trials. *Ibid.*

Act allowing till the 9th *August* next, for removing Mr. *Daniel McLauren's* Grievances at *Kilsyth*. *Ibid.*

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Act for Sale of the Church's Debenture Notes, on the Fund of the Equivalent, and appointing the Church's whole Debts to be paid in the first Place, and that what remains be applied for maintaining Preachers, to travel among People in large Parishes where Popery abounds, and to shew them the Danger of the Errours of the Church of Rome, and to instruct them in the Principles of the Protestant Religion; with a Reference to the Commission, to give Directions in this Matter, and to determine what Annualrents shall be paid to the Church's Creditors. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission, concerning the Reimbursement of the Expences of Mr. *William Hamilton* and Mr. *William Mitchell*, their Journey to London about the Church's Affairs. *Ibid.*

Order for Payment of 200 Merks to *Janet Carlyle* Relict of Mr. *Thomas Henderson* with Interest, which was resting to her Husband. *Ibid.*

Order for Payment of 80 *Lib. Scots* with Interest, due to Mr. *John Corbet*. *Ibid.*

Act appointing Mr. *John Duncan* Probationer, to supply Vacancies in the Bounds of the Synod of *Aberdeen*, and allowing him 100 Merks. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission, of a Process and Appeal, concerning the Transportation of Mr. *Andrew Turcan* from *Glendovan* to *Foulis*. *Ibid.*

Mr. *James Oliphant* at *Wick*, allowed 120 *Lib. Scots*, for helping to defray the Charges of his Process, for Settlement of the Stipend of *Wick*. *Ibid.*

Mr. *Hugh Corfs* at *Bowar*, allowed a Sum not under 200 Merks, for helping to defray the Charges of his depending Processes; and in Case of any further Expences, he is allowed to apply with Respect thereto to the Assembly. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission, of a Process and Appeal, concerning the Transportation of Mr. *George Moir*, from *Towie* to *Clunie*. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission, of a Process and Appeal, concerning the planting the Parish of *Glenilay*, with Power to determine betwixt the two competing Parties there, one for Mr. *James Thomson*, and the other for Mr. *Thomas Ker* Probationers. *Ibid.*

The Commission appointed to take Care, That the Impressions of the Holy Scriptures, of the Confessions of Faith, and Catechisms, and of all other Books, relating to the Doctrine, Worship, Discipline and Government of this Church, be correct. *Ibid.*

Remit to the Synod of *Murray*, to review their Sentence against Mr. *James Gordon* at *Knockando*, and he allowed, in Case he find himself lesed by the Synod, to apply to the

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- the Commission, who are impowered finally to determine in the Affair as they shall see Cause. *Ibid.*
- Reference to the Commission, of an Appeal made by Mr. *John Pearson*, from the Synod of *Perth*, with Power finally to determine therein. *Ibid.*
- Reference to the Commission, of an Appeal made by the Presbytery of *Dumblain*, from the Synod of *Perth*, against the Settlement of Mr. *John Squire* at *Tulliallan*, with Power finally to determine therein, in Case he be not betwixt and the 2d *Wednesday* of *August* next, settled at *Forress* to which he has a Call. *Ibid.*
- Reference to the Commission, concerning the Transportation of Mr. *Thomas Fairbairn*, from *Rothies* to *Bottorie*. *Ibid.*
- Reference to the Commission, of a Process of Scandal, which was depending before the Presbytery of *Kirkaldie*, and Synod of *Fyfe*, against Mr. *Henry Robin* at *Burntisland*. *Ibid.*
- Reference to the Commission, of an Appeal made for Mr. *George White*, from the Synod of *Aberdeen*. *Ibid.*
- Appointment of the next Diet of this Assembly and its Committees. *Ibid.*
- A Petition for *Boguslaus Kopietwicz*, Minister of the Gospel at *Vilna*, in the Great Dukedom of *Lithuania*, and Delegate from the reformed Churches there; holding forth the great Distress of these Churches, and craving Supply; with the Assembly's Recommendation, for a voluntary Contribution in their Favours, *May* 27th, 1718, Sess. *Ulr.*
- Boguslaus Kopietwicz* allowed Thirty *Guineas* out of the Church's publick Money, for his own personal Charges. *Ibid.*
- Reference to the Commission, of the Overtures against Popery, and the Committee formerly appointed, ordered to lay before the Commission, what they have done thereanent. *Ibid.*
- Reference to the Commission, of a Process concerning the Transportation of Mr. *Daniel Mackenzie*, from *Aberlour*, to *Inneraven*. *Ibid.*
- Report of the Committee, anent Commissions to Members of this Assembly, with an Appointment for writing Letters to the Synods and Presbyteries concerned, &c, *Ibid.*
- Act appointing Intimation to be made of the Sentence of Excommunication, against Mr. *James Gilchrist* late Minister at *Dunfermire*, and a Reference to the Commission thereanent, and appointing the Presbytery of *Lochmaben*, betwixt and the First of *August* next, to warn Mr. *John Taylor* late Minister at *Wamphrey*, to abstain from his disorderly

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- orderly and schismatical Courses, and if he be contumacious, That they proceed to a Sentence of Excommunication against him. *Ibid.*
- The Procurator and Agents for the Church, appointed to assist Mr. *John Gillies* Minister of *Caroldstown*, in recovering a Mortification, made in Favours of the Ministers of that Parish. *Ibid.*
- The Procurator and Agents for the Church, appointed to assist Mr. *John Morison* Minister at *Urray*, in the Processes depending at his Instance, for settling the Stipend of that Parish. *Ibid.*
- The Procurator and Agents for the Church, appointed to assist Mr. *Hugh Monro* at *Tain*, in the further carrying on the Process for Settlement of his Stipend, and an Accompt of the Expences thereof, ordered to be given in to the next Assembly. *Ibid.*
- An Address to the King's Commissioner, to interceed with His Majesty, for a Stipend out of the Bishops Rents, to another Minister in *Duirness* in *Strathnaver*. *Ibid.*
- The Commission instructed to give Advice and Assistance, for rendering effectual a Mortification, made by the deceased *George Earl of Cromerty*, for maintaining Catechists in *Ross*. *Ibid.*
- The Commission instructed to assist Presbyteries, in getting vacant Stipends applied to pious Uses within the respective Parishes, conform to Law. *Ibid.*
- The Procurator and Agents for the Church, appointed to assist Mr. *George Monro* at *Nig*, in getting the Church of that Parish repaired. *Ibid.*
- The Commission instructed, to apply to the Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces, when desired by Presbyteries, to oblige Soldiers guilty of Scandals, to answer to Church Judicatures, when inferiour Officers refuse to do the same. *Ibid.*
- The Commission instructed, to concur with the Presbytery of *Brechein*, in endeavouring to get the Stipend of *Navar* augmented, by a Gift from His Majesty, out of the Bishops Rents. *Ibid.*
- The Commission instructed, to concur with Mr. *Robert Ker*, and Presbytery of *Brechein*, for obtaining a Gift of the vacant Stipends of *Lethnot* and *Lochlee*. *Ibid.*
- Recommendation to the Synod of *Argyll*, in Favours of *Joan Kirkland* a Dutch-man in Distress, for charitable Supply. *Ibid.*
- Recommendation to the Synods of *Aberdeen*, *Lothian*, and *Tweeddale*, and *Fyfe*, in Favours of *John Henderson* a Sufferer during the late Rebellion, for Charity. *Ibid.*
- Recommendation to all Presbyteries and Synods, deficient in sending their charitable Supply, for the Relief of Mr. *Wil.*

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William Mitchell late Minister at *Newmachir*, yet to do it. *Ibid.*

An Address to the King's Commissioner, to lay before His Majesty, a Representation of the Sufferings of Mr. *Daniel M'Gilligin* Minister, during the late Rebellion, with a Reference to the Commission thereanent. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission, to consider what may be done, to prevent Perjuries at the Custom Houses in Matters of Trade, and to prepare some Overture to this Effect, to be laid before the next Assembly. *Ibid.*

The Commission instructed, to enquire of Mr. *David Musbet* Probationer, the Reasons why he did not obey the Appointment laid on him to go North, and to censure him if they see Cause. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission to give Orders, to put Mr. *Francis Grant* and Mr. *William Blair* Students having *Irish* on Trials, in Order to their being sent to supply Vacancies, in the Bounds of the Synod of *Murray*. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission, of some Overtures about Schools, and of all other Affairs before the former Commission not discussed. *Ibid.*

List of Probationers and Students in Divinity, brought in and ordered to be recorded. *Ibid.*

Intimation of the Meeting of the Commission to Morrow. *Ibid.*

Committee for revising the Minutes of this Assembly, and giving Orders about what of the Acts of this Assembly are to be printed. *Ibid.*

Protestation admitted for the Synod of *Perth* and *Stirling*, against Mr. *John Skinner* late Incumbent at *Bothkenner*, for not insisting in his Appeal, against that Synod's Sentence, deposing him. *Ibid.*

The Minutes of this *Sederunt* read. *Ibid.*

The Moderator's Speech, and the Commissioner's Speech, and the Conclusion of this General Assembly.

F I N I S